

## Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, November 9, 2015, 6:00 PM Council Chambers

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### Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.  
Vice Chairman, W.J. Frierson, Sr.  
Councilman, Billy G. Richardson  
Councilman, AC English  
Councilman Benton Blakely  
County Administrator, David W. Epperson  
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

**Press in attendance:** Brianna Bradham, The Manning Times, Jim Hilley, The Item

### Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Jamie Welch	Charlotte Johnston	George Kosinski,
Adrianne LaNeave	Jim Wither	John Tindal	Cathy Williams
Kim Johnson	Dr. Connie Dennis	Laura Fleming	Mike Jackson
Jeremy Cook	Patricia Pringle	Matt Evans	Linda Lemon
Archie Lemon	And other Clarendon County Residents		

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Vice Chairman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

### I. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Stewart asked for an approval of the agenda.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the regular council meeting agenda for November 9, 2015.

### II. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on October 12, 2015.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Special Called Council Meeting, which was held on November 2, 2015.

### III. Ordinance 2015-04

Mr. George Kosinski stated that this Ordinance is in reference to a Project he has been working with since Mid-March with a Company that would create 70 jobs over five years and invest 32 million dollars in Clarendon County. He continued by stating that the Company is confidential and plans are being finalized for a building in Clarendon County

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2015-04, An Ordinance authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement by and between Clarendon County, South Carolina, and PROJECT JACKET; Providing for a payment of a Fee in Lieu of taxes; Providing for a Credit against a Fee in Lieu of taxes; Providing for the acceptance and administration of any Grants and other Funds related to PROJECT JACKET; and Other Related Matters.

#### **IV. Ordinance 2015-03**

Consideration was given to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-03, An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance of not Exceeding, in the Aggregate, \$1,750,000 in General Obligation Bonds, in one or more series, Tax-Exempt or Taxable, to be used to Fund one or more Capital Projects related to Flood Relief; Authorizing the Chair to prescribe the Form and details of the Bonds; Providing for the payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the proceeds of the Bonds; Providing for Borrowing in Anticipation of the Issuance of the Bonds; Providing for the acceptance of any Grants and other Funds related to the Capital Projects related to the Bonds; and Other Related Matters.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2015-03, An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance of not Exceeding, in the Aggregate, \$1,750,000 in General Obligation Bonds, in one or more series, Tax-Exempt or Taxable, to be used to Fund one or more Capital Projects related to Flood Relief; Authorizing the Chair to prescribe the Form and details of the Bonds; Providing for the payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the proceeds of the Bonds; Providing for Borrowing in Anticipation of the Issuance of the Bonds; Providing for the acceptance of any Grants and other Funds related to the Capital Projects related to the Bonds; and Other Related Matters.

#### **V. Ordinance 2015-06**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with an Ordinance to Authorize the Sale of Three(3) Parcels of Real Property owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina and identified as Clarendon County Tax Map Parcel Nos. 169-14-06-003-0; 187-02-04-020-00; 194-01-00-001-00.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to an Ordinance to Authorize the Sale of Three(3) Parcels of Real Property owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina and identified as Clarendon County Tax Map Parcel Nos. 169-14-06-003-0; 187-02-04-020-00; 194-01-00-001-00.

#### **VI. Ordinance 2015-07**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with an Ordinance to Authorize the Transfer of Three(3) Parcels of Real Property owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina to the Business Development Corporation of Clarendon County, and Identified as Clarendon County Tax Map Parcel Nos. 141-00-02-054-00; 141-00-01-001-00; 141-00-02-048-00.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to an Ordinance to Authorize the Transfer of Three(3) Parcels of Real Property owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina to the Business Development Corporation of Clarendon County, and Identified as Clarendon County Tax Map Parcel Nos. 141-00-02-054-00; 141-00-01-001-00; 141-00-02-048-00.

#### **VII. Presentations**

**i. FEMA** - Mr. Jim Wither, FEMA, presented Council with information relating to getting reimbursement from FEMA for Flood related damages. He stated that the date to apply for reimbursement from FEMA has been extended and you can register for assistance through December 3, 2015. Mr. Wither continued by stating that repair money from FEMA goes to the homeowners and not the renters. He concluded by stating that everybody that had damages to their personal property should register with FEMA before the deadline.

**ii SBA** - Ms. Adrienne LaNeave, Public Affairs Specialist, presented Council with information on small business loans. She stated that the Small Business Administration provides loans to small businesses and not grants. Ms. LaNeave continued by stating that all applications must be submitted by December 4, 2015. She further stated that homeowners could borrow up to \$200,000 on a 1.87% fixed rate for 30 years. Rentals can borrow up to \$40,000 with a rate of 3.75%, Businesses can borrow up to \$2,000,00 at a rate of 4%, and Churches or Nonprofit Organizations can borrow up to \$2,000,000 at a rate of 2.625%. Ms. LaNeave continued by stating that these loans can be extended for a period of 30 years. She concluded by stating that a homeowner can secure a loan with a rate of 3.75% for the first \$25,000 being unsecured. Ms. LaNeave further stated that Clarendon County residents have been approved for \$50,000,000 in loans as of this morning.

**iii. Clarendon County Library Board-** Mr. Jamie Welch, Library Board Chairman, presented Council with an overview of the improvements of the Clarendon County Library. He stated that June and July were the heaviest months that the Library was utilized. He continued by stating that this past summer, the Library had 22 summer programs. Mr. Welch continued by stating that the Clarendon County Library has new computers, WI-FI, a new server and has installed security cameras. He continued by thanking Friends of the Library for the new Mural. Mr. Welch further stated that the Clarendon County Library would like to have a satellite branch in the Northern and Southern ends of the County. He concluded by publicly thanking Ms. Charlotte Johnston for the work that she is doing at the Clarendon County Public Library.

## **VIII. Requests**

**i. Clarendon School District II** - Mr. John Tindal, Superintendent, presented Council with a request to spend the Excess Revenue from the Local Option Sales Tax for Capital Improvements. He stated that the following items need to be replaced or repaired:

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|---------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------|
| • HVAC              | Roofs    | Technology         | Parking Lots         |
| • Kitchen Equipment | Plumbing | Painting           | Playground Equipment |
| • P.E. Equipment    | Fencing  | School Furnishings | Rekeying Schools     |

Mr. Tindal concluded his request by stating that the funds will come from the Local Option Sales Tax.

**ii. Clarendon School District III** – Dr. Connie Dennis, Superintendent, stated that it is no secret that for the last several years, Clarendon School District III has overspent their budget. She continued by stating that School District III is not asking for anything. Dr. Dennis concluded by presenting Ms. Laura Fleming, Finance Director, to County Council.

Ms. Fleming presented Council with a PowerPoint presentation of the Financial Update for Clarendon School District III. She stated that Clarendon III made some tough decisions by eliminating numerous positions, seven of which were teaching positions. Ms. Fleming stated that the changes were necessary for the district in order to cut cost. She continued by stating that the District reduced retirees pay by 10%, all teachers had a 5-day furlough, and the administrators had a 10-day furlough. Ms. Fleming further stated that the District increased out-of-district tuition by \$200.

Ms. Fleming concluded her presentation by stating that Clarendon School District III does not have any Capital Improvement projects again this year.

## **IX. Ordinance 2015-05**

Mr. John Tindal, Superintendent of Clarendon School District II presented Council with an Ordinance for a General Obligation Bond not to exceed \$2,700,000. He stated that the funds would be used to construct a Field House at Manning High School, renovate the MHS Stadium, pave the parking spaces for the school buses, improve existing facilities in School District II including the MHS office, and other capital improvements.

Mr. Jeremy Cook, Attorney, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., stated that the GO Bond would be paid out with the Local Option Sales Tax. A short-term bond to be paid by the year 2021. He stated that Clarendon School District II has not had any new projects since 2009. Mr. Cook concluded by asking Council to approve First Reading of Ordinance 2015-05.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2015-05, Approving the Issuance by Clarendon County School District No. 2, South Carolina of General Obligation Bonds in a Principal amount not to Exceed \$2,700,000.

## **X. Board Appointment**

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Mr. Stephen C. Dukes to the Clarendon County Behavioral Health Services Commission to serve another term of 3 years.

## **XI. Proclamation**

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a Proclamation proclaiming November 8, 2015 as the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

### **VIII. Financial Report**

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating that the General Fund had Expenditures of \$1,389,431 for the month of October and that this amount does not include flood related activities and Revenue figures were not available.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Weldon Auditorium had very little activity for the month of October with total Revenue of \$3,204, and total Expenses of \$36,675. He stated that after transfers from the Accommodation taxes, Hospitality Taxes, and the General Fund in the amount of \$33,471, the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of October with a zero balance.

Mr. Anthony further stated that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$254,901 and Operating Expenses of \$104,776 as of October 31, 2015. He stated that after depreciation, transfers, interest expense, and Grant Revenue totaling \$377,460, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility income of \$482,236.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund had a cash balance of \$3,930,918 as of September 30, 2015 of which \$4,035,998 has been committed to the local paving projects and the state required projects leaving a deficit of \$105,080.

### **VIII. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Epperson began his report by thanking everyone that assisted during the flood event. He continued by thanking his wife for keeping his home together. Administrator Epperson continued by stating that over 3500 County residents applied for FEMA assistance. He stated that there were 450 County maintained roads damaged by the flood. Administrator Epperson continued by thanking the School Districts for going out and picking up residents whose homes were flooded.

Administrator Epperson further stated that 160 of the damaged roads have been repaired thanks to assistance from Greenville County Public Works Department and the National Guard. He continued by stating that there were \$19,000,000 in damages to crops in Clarendon County alone.

Administrator Epperson concluded his report by stating that the County would not be able to spray for mosquitos because it would take two sprays at \$750,000 per spray by Air and this was not a budgeted item.

### **IX. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he attended the celebration for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Commemorating the ending of the Vietnam War that was held on November 8, 2015.

Chairman Stewart concluded his report by stating that he and Administrator Epperson would be traveling to Washington DC on November 17, 2015 in reference to getting some assistance for Farmers.

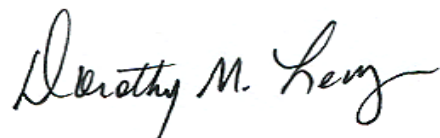
### **X. Adjournment**

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous approval to adjourn the Council meeting.

The Council Meeting ended at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council